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BY:

Renée Conti

Date:

April 7, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:
Eric Garver, *et al.*

Conf. No.: 5387

: Group Art Unit: 1635

Appln. No.: 09/932,300

: Examiner: K. A. Lacourciere

Filing Date: August 17, 2001

: Attorney Docket No.: 9855-3U2

Title: METHODS OF INHIBITING ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This Response to Restriction Requirement is supplied in view of the Restriction Requirement (marked "Part of Paper No./Mail Date 030404") mailed March 9, 2004. It is timely filed on April 7, 2004 in advance of the April 9, 2004 deadline.

In view of the Preliminary Amendment filed 17 August 2001, claims 1-33 and 44 are pending.

Based upon the information provided by the Examiner in this Office Action, the Applicants are under the assumption that the prior Office Action (Paper No. 9) has been withdrawn.

The Examiner has imposed a six-way restriction requirement. The Applicants hereby elects for initial prosecution group I: claims 1-24, 33-40 and 50, drawn to an antisense oligonucleotide for inhibiting the expression of aldehyde dehydrogenase gene in a cell, classified in class 536, subclass 24.5.

In addition, the Applicants hereby elects for initial prosecution the claims of group I directed to the ALDH2-1 allele, and, specifically, claims directed to the antisense nucleotide designated SEQ. I.D. NO: 110.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner examine and allow the claims at the earliest opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIC GRAVER, et al.

7 April 2004
(Date)

By:

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